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LETTER DATED 10 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LUXEMBOURG TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement issued on 10 July 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union on the situation in Sierra Leone.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Jean-Louis WOLZFELD
Permanent Representative
of Luxembourg to the
United Nations

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Annex

Statement issued on 10 July 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union on the situation in Sierra Leone

The European Union would refer to its statements of 28 May and 20 June 1997.

It welcomes the meeting of the States members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) held at Conakry on 26 June. It lends its support to the efforts which ECOWAS is making to resolve the crisis in Sierra Leone and to prevent fresh bloodshed. The European Union particularly welcomes the presence of a representative of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on the committee which the regional organization has set up to monitor the progress of diplomatic efforts.

The European Union awaits the committee's reports with the greatest interest and shares its objectives regarding the early achievement of a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

The European Union stresses the need for constitutional order to be restored in Sierra Leone by peaceful means. Pending the return of the legitimate Government to Freetown, the European Union reiterates the position expressed in its statement of 20 June and maintains its view that development aid granted to Sierra Leone cannot be continued in the present circumstances.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated country Cyprus, Iceland and Norway align themselves with the present statement.